

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

8 June 1983

ARTICLE APPEARED

ON PAGE

5

Risk of baring secrets no bar to general's trial

From Chicago Tribune wires

WASHINGTON—The Justice Department said Tuesday that it will take a retired Air Force general to trial on charges of embezzling \$445,000, despite a judge's ruling that the general can reveal secret military information as part of his defense. Richard B. Collins, 53, of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., is accused of funneling the money from secret military accounts into his own Swiss bank accounts before his retirement in 1978. Collins says classified documents and other secret information will show that he wasn't stealing the money but simply carrying out his assignment as manager of funds used to bankroll the CIA and military intelligence operations in Europe. Prosecutors and defense attorneys said Monday that a sealed order issued by U.S. District Judge James C. Paine in West Palm Beach, Fla., allows Collins to bring out military secrets in a trial set to begin here July 18.